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(54) SKIN EXTERNAL PREPARATION

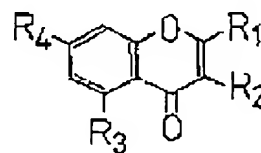
(57) Abstract:

PURPOSE: To obtain a safe skin external preparation, comprising a specific chromone derivative as an active ingredient without any recognizable development, etc., of irritancy and allergy for the skin excellent in improving effects on pigmentation.

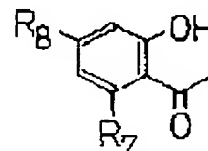
CONSTITUTION: The objective skin external preparation comprises a compound of formula I [R_1 is H, alkyl, carboxyl or COOR_6 (R_6 is 1-15C alkyl or alkenyl); R_2 is H, alkyl or carboxyl; R_3 is H, OH, lower alkoxy, carboxymethyloxy or lower alkoxy carbonylmethyloxy; R_4 is H, OH, OR_6 (R_6 is 1-15C alkyl or alkenyl), lower acyloxy, carboxymethyloxy or lower alkoxy carbonylmethyloxy] or its salt as an active ingredient. This compound is obtained by carrying out a method for cyclizing a compound of formula II (R_7 and R_8 are H, OH or lower alkoxy) with a fatty acid ester in the presence of a base

such as metallic sodium and then thermally cyclizing the resultant compound in the presence of etc.

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